



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**Thomas Scott Woodward**  
*United States Attorney*  
*Northern District of Oklahoma*

---

*110 West Seventh Street, Suite 300*  
*Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119*

*(918)382-2700*

**NEWS RELEASE**

November 1, 2010  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Contact: Charles McLoughlin

**PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO VOTE AND PROSECUTING BALLOT FRAUD**

United States Attorney Thomas Scott Woodward announced today that Charles M. McLoughlin, an Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Oklahoma, will lead the efforts of his Office in connection with the Justice Department's nationwide Election Day Program for the upcoming November 2, 2010, general elections. McLoughlin has been appointed to serve as the District Election Officer for the Northern District of Oklahoma, and in that capacity is responsible for overseeing the District's handling of complaints of election fraud and voting rights abuses in consultation with Justice Department Headquarters.

On October 8, 2002, the Department of Justice established a Department-wide Ballot Access and Voting Integrity Initiative. The goals of this Initiative are to increase the Department's ability to deter voter intimidation, suppression, discrimination and election fraud, and to prosecute these offenses whenever and wherever they occur. Both goals are equally important. It is imperative that in pursuing voter integrity, ballot access is not in any way diminished or harmed. The Department's long-standing Election Day Program furthers the goals of the Initiative. The Program also is intended to ensure public confidence in the integrity of the election process by providing local points of contact within the Department where the public can report possible election fraud and voting rights violations while the polls are open on election day. The franchise is the cornerstone of American democracy. We all must ensure that those who are entitled to the franchise are free to exercise it, while those who seek to corrupt it are brought to justice.

In order to respond to complaints of election fraud or voting rights abuses on November 2, 2010, and to ensure that such complaints are directed to the appropriate authorities, United States Attorney Woodward stated that Assistant United States Attorney Charles McLoughlin will be on duty in this District while polls are open. He can be reached by the public at the following telephone number: (918) 382-2713.

The FBI will also have Special Agents available in each field office and resident agency in this District to receive allegations of election fraud, intimidation, suppression and other election abuses. The FBI in northeast Oklahoma, Tulsa area, can be reached by the public at (918) 664-3300.

Complaints about ballot access problems or discrimination can be made directly to the Civil Rights Division's Voting Section in Washington at 1-800-253-3931. Where voter intimidation or suppression tactics target voters on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin, please contact the Civil Rights Division's Criminal Section at 202-514-3204.

United States Attorney Woodward said, "Election fraud and voting rights abuses dilute the worth of votes honestly cast. They also corrupt the essence of our representative form of government. As crimes against both the individual and the government, they will be dealt with promptly and aggressively. Anyone who has information suggesting electoral corruption or voting rights abuses should make that information available immediately to my Office, the FBI, or the Civil Rights Division."

# # # #